(b) to (e) Prasar Bharti has informed that 18 posts of Stenographers Grade-I have been upgraded to the level of Private Secretary in the subordinate offices of Akashvani and doordarshan. Further action to create/upgrade posts has been stopped in view of the ban on creation of posts, by the Ministry of Finance.

Advertisements of Liquor Companies

1285. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH 'SURYA': Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that some liquor companies are advertising their products under different grab such as apple juice;

(b) whether the comanies have been identified; and

(c) if so, the action taken against the companies and the channels showing them?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir.The Government has constituted a Committee under Section 20 of the Cable Television Network (Regulation) Act 1995 to take cognisance *suo moto* or look into specific complaints regarding violation of the Adevertisement Code as defined in Rule 7 of the Cable Television Network Rules 1994, including *inter alia,* cases of 'Surrogate advertising', which may arise out of the ban on advertisements, which promote directly or indirectly production, sale or consumption of cigarettes, alcohol etc. and recommend action as deemed necessary in accordance with the provisions of the Act.

In the first meeting, the Committee recommended issue of show cause notices to four channels, for violating the provisions of Rule 7(2)(viii) of the Advertisement Code of the Cable TV Network Rules 1994. These Channels have since sent their replies and confirmed that they have stopped the concerned advertisements till the date matter is examined.

Vacancies in STS Cadre

1286. SHRI MOOLCHAND MEENA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are 31 vacancies in the STS cadre for STs despite the availability of a number of eligible officers in the Junior Time Scale (JTS) of IB(E)S;

(b) if so, the reasons theefor;

(c) the action taken against those responsible for the delay; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATISUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) and (b) The filling up of vacancies in any category is a continous process. In accordance with the Post-based Reservation Roster, 36 posts were reserved for ST candidates and the fuH complement has been promised to STS on reguiar/ad hoc basis.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Proposal for digital Technology in Bangalore Centre

1287. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to introduce digital technology in the Bangalore Doordarshan Kendra.

(b) if so, by when it will be introduced; and

(c) the advantages of having the digital technology?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) and (b) Doordarshan has proposed digitalization of production facilities at its major Kendras during the Tenth Five Year Plan. The Tenth Five Year Plan has not been finalized so far.

(c) The main advantages of digital technology are-enhanced picture and sound quality; less noise; easy maintenance; easy automation and cost effectiveness.

Selection of Jury Members for National Film Awards

1288. SHRI M.V. RAJASHEKHARAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the list of members of the Screening Committee for National film Awards for the year 2002-2003;

(b) whether it is a fact that Selection Committee does not have a Kannada knowing Members and Kannada movies are judged through an Interpreter; and